

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 643

By Norris

A RESOLUTION to recognize Jeffrie Bruton on the occasion of her retirement from Shelby Residential and Vocational Services.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, Jeffrie Bruton, longtime Executive Director of Shelby Residential and Vocational Services (SRVS) Memphis, is one such estimable person who has served the city with distinction; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bruton will be taking a much deserved retirement after more than fifteen years of distinguished public service; and

WHEREAS, Jeffrie Bruton was first employed by SRVS in 1995 as the Director of Finance and Administration and, prior to that, she served as a hospital Chief Financial Officer; and

WHEREAS, after serving SRVS with acumen and alacrity for one year, Ms. Bruton became the agency's Executive Director, the position from which she is retiring; and

WHEREAS, over the past fifteen years, this public-spirited citizen of the highest order has had the pleasure of working with a team of dedicated people who tirelessly strive to improve the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, when Jeffrie Bruton first came to SRVS, the agency operated on a \$12 million budget with an estimated 400-person staff supporting more than 300 service recipients; and

WHEREAS, today, the agency employs a staff of approximately 950, serves 850 individuals with more than eighty residential locations throughout Memphis, and operates on a

\$29 million budget, an exponential increase from the shoestring budget the agency had to work with when it was formed in 1962 by a group of parents wanting to make a difference for their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, the agency's numerous accomplishments include converting large group homes into smaller settings to promote inclusion, establishing a successful partnership with a Memphis housing agency to expand residential opportunities, and remaining in the Arlington Court Monitor and Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities' Quality Tier; and

WHEREAS, in early 2012, SRVS will complete the renovation on its new 80,000 square-foot headquarters building, which will allow the agency to double its space available to provide services for clients; and

WHEREAS, deeply involved in her community, Ms. Bruton graciously dedicates her time and energies to Tennessee Community Organizations, which she served as President in 2000 and 2010; and

WHEREAS, Jeffrie Bruton exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Ms. Bruton has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues and the good people of Memphis; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Jeffrie Bruton our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.